

Message Text

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44

ACTION XMB-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 OPIC-03 SP-02

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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1020
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO EXIM BANK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EIND, APAP, IV

SUBJECT: VISIT OF FNCB OFFICIALS; LANG AFRIQUE AND REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE

REF: A) ABIDJAN 8907 (NOTAL)
B) ABIDJAN 9238 (NOTLAL)

1. ALAN GOLDIE, VP OF FNCB, ACCOMPANIED BY JOSEPH PEGUES OF FNCB KINSHASA, VISITED IVORY COAST WEEK OF NOVEMBER 11. THEY CALLED ON HOVINE, DIRECTOR OF THE CAISSE AUTONOME D'AMORTISSEMENT, GUY DIBO, SECSTATE FOR MINES, KONAN BEDIE, MINFIN, AND OFFICIALS OF LANG AFRIQUE AND SODESUCRE.

2. GOLDIE AND PEGUE IN COMPANY EMBOFFF VISITED LANG-SODESUCRE SUGAR REFINING SITE NOVEMBER 16. FNCB HAS LOANED SODESUCRE 51.6 MILLION DOLLARS FOR SUGAR COMPLEX AND INTIMATED THAT LANG HAS REQUESTED FNCB FINANCING FOR SUGAR PROJECT IN MAURITANIA.

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ON THE LATTER POINT, GOLDIE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE BEST WAY

TO CONVINCE FNCB OF LANG'S VIABILITY IS TO GET THE FERKE SUGAR
REFINERY OPEN AND OPERATING PROPERLY ASAP. BARNARD SILVER,
DIRECTOR OF SUGAR REFINERY FOR SODESUCRE, SAID THAT LANG IS
PULLING OUT SOME KEY PERSONNEL NJOM FERKE PROJECT AND
SENDING THEM TO MAURITANIA. GOLDIE (AND EMBASSY CONCURS)
SES THIS AS INOPPORTUNE TIME FOR SUCH A MOVE. (SEE PARA 2
EFTEL A).

3. REGARDING FUTURE FNCB LOANS FOR PROJETS LANG PLANS TO
UNDERTAKE IN WEST FRICA, GOLDIE TOLD EMBOFF THAT LANG
HAS NOT LIVED UP TO FNCB EXPECTATIONS; FROM HERE ON IN
FNCB, ALTHOUGH OPEN TO ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL REQUESTS,
WOULD TAKE HARD LINE APPROACH TO MAKE SURE THAT LANG/
CLIENT CONTRACTS WOULD NOT BE AS LOOSELY DRAWN AS LANG/
SODESUCRE CONTRACT, PARTICULARLY RE DELAYS, IN ATTEMPT
TO AVOID ACRIMONIOUS CLIMATE AND INCREASING DIFFICULTY/
AGGREVATION FOR ITS CLIENTS.

4. FNCB PLANS TO OPEN A REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN
ABIDJAN IN JANUARY , 1975 WITH PEGUES AS HEAD. FNCB
BELIEVES THAT AMONGST THE USBANKS DESIRING SOME FORM OF
PRESENCE HERE, FNCB IS IN A BETTER POSITION TO COMPETE DUE
TO 75 MILLION DOLLARS DOSSIER IN IVORY COAST.(SEE REFTEL B).
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Message Attributes

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